



NEWS RELEASE

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Two Charged with Sex Trafficking of Woman and Teens

Two men have been charged with trafficking one woman and two minors for the purpose of sex in the Los Angeles and Long Beach areas, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Bobby Joe King (dob 7/24/92) has been charged with 20 felony counts in case NA103428, including human trafficking of a minor for a commercial sex act, by force, fear, fraud or threat of injury; forcible rape - child victim over 14 years; kidnapping; and possession of a firearm by a felon.

King's codefendant, James Mark (dob 7/6/89), has been charged with ten felony counts in the same case, including human trafficking of a minor for a commercial sex act, by force, fear fraud or threat of injury; and pandering by procuring a minor under age 16.

King and Mark were scheduled to be arraigned today, but the court appearance was continued to Feb. 9 in Department S01 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Long Beach Branch.

The felony complaint includes gang, gun and multiple victims' allegations for King. Additionally, the charging document alleges that King was previously convicted of fleeing a pursuing peace officer's motor vehicle while driving in 2015.

The charging document also includes a gang allegation for Mark. Furthermore, the felony complaint alleges that Mark was previously convicted of sales/ transportation/offer to sell controlled substance in 2009 and carrying a loaded firearm in 2014.

Deputy District Attorney Troy Davis, who is prosecuting the case, said defendants Bobby Joe King and James Mark are both documented gang members.

The prosecutor said in 2015, a 20-year-old woman encountered King online and several months later met up with the defendant in Long Beach.

During their meeting, King allegedly raped the woman and subsequently made her work for him as a prostitute. Additionally, the defendant reportedly forced the victim to have his pimp moniker tattooed on her body, the prosecutor added.

During this time, Mark allegedly tried to have the 20-year-old woman work for him as a prostitute as well, according to the prosecutor.

King also is accused of meeting a 15-year-old girl in a Los Angeles park, displaying a gun and forcing the teenager to work for him as a prostitute, the prosecutor said. The defendant is alleged to also have raped the teenager several times, according to the prosecutor.

Mark reportedly would drive the victim to several locations for sex work, the prosecutor said. Additionally, Mark allegedly offered to be the teen's new pimp.

King and Mark also are accused of pimping a second 15-year-old girl in Los Angeles.

If convicted as charged, King faces a possible maximum sentence of life in state without the possibility of parole, while Mark faces 50 years to life in state prison.

The case is being investigated by the Long Beach Police Department.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.